

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Prior to this amendment, claims 1-7,10-15, 44, and 46-59 were pending. In this amendment, claims 46-51 and 54 are amended. In order to expedite issuance of allowed subject matter, claims 44 and 55-59 are canceled without prejudice and without disclaimer. No claims are added. Thus, after entry of this amendment, claims 1-7,10-15 and 46-54 will be pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note with appreciation the indicated allowability of claims 1-7 and 10-15.

Claims Rewritten in Independent Form and Allowable

Applicants also note with appreciation the indicated allowability of claim 51, if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 51 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of former base claim 44. Thus, claim 51 and its dependent claims 46-50 and 52-54 are believed to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

/David B. Raczkowski/

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